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its summer and winter appearance, discusses the production and viability of the seed and natural propagation of the plant by means of shoots springing from the shallow-lying roots. In briefly describing its anatomy and the occurrence of rubber and resin, the guayule is contrasted with latex plants, and the effects of irrigation upon the secretion of rubber are noted.

Among the conclusions drawn by the author, the following are the more important. If, despite the apparently small numbers produced, all the seeds which actually germinate in the field should survive, there would frequently be many more guayule plants than could find room to develop; that it would be difficult to completely eradicate guayule on account of the readiness with which shoots are formed from the roots; that under irrigation the ratio of the rubber producing tissue to the non-producing tissue is lowered by the relatively greater development of the wood cylinder and the reduction in thickness of the medullary rays; that finally the wood becomes harder and the stems show a strong tendency to run out into flowering shoots which die back. These disadvantages are compensated for, however, by the much more rapid rate of growth which, in irrigated plants, averages five to eight times that of field plants, the maximum rubber disposition in the former comparing favorably with that in the latter.

The paper is concluded with a description of the habitat of the plant and a résumé of the economic problems concerned with its culture.

CHARLES S. RIDGWAY

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. Raymond H. Pond has recently accepted a position at the Agricultural Experiment Station at College Station, Texas.

Professor E. Dwight Sanderson has resigned the directorship of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the New Hampshire College.

Syracuse University will begin next fall courses in forestry and agriculture, leading to the establishment of a college of agriculture and forestry.

Mr. Frank D. Kern, of Purdue University, has been studying rusts at the New York Botanical Garden ; Dr. J. C. Arthur also spent a short time in more general work at Harvard University.

Dr. and Mrs. N. L. Britton have sailed for Cuba on a collecting trip for the New York Botanical Garden ; the Garden is also represented at present in the Bahamas by Dr. J. K. Small, and in Mexico by Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Murrill.

Applications for grants from the Esther Herrman building fund, the income from which is used temporarily in aiding scientific investigations, should be addressed to the secretary of the Torrey Botanical Club or to the secretary of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Louis Krauter, who was assistant professor of botany in the University of Pennsylvania, was frozen to death while hunting near Wildwood, New Jersey. The same fate met his companion, E. J. W. Macfarlane, son of Professor John M. Macfarlane of the same university.

Columbia University is offering through the department of botany a course of extension lectures on agriculture and agricultural methods. This series is designed to serve as an introduction to the extensive additions planned by the department, leading, it is hoped, to the establishment of schools of forestry and agriculture.

At the Boston meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and affiliated societies the following botanists were elected to the positions designated : Dr. D. T. MacDougal (Desert Botanical Laboratory, Tucson), president of the American Society of Naturalists ; Dr. F. L. Stevens (North Carolina Agricultural College), president of the American Phytopathological Society ; Professor D. P. Penhallow (McGill University), vice-president of Section G ; Dr. Erwin F. Smith (Department of Agriculture, Washington), Professor L. R. Jones (University of Wisconsin), and Dr. G. T. Moore (Missouri Botanical Garden) were, respectively, elected as president, vice-president, and secretary of the Botanical Society of America.